

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph 146 with the following amended paragraph.

[0146] The difficulty in matching Bingo patterns to a large number of award amounts may be reduced by applying a multi-level mapping strategy wherein most or all of the desired award amounts may be provided without the necessity of assigning distinct Bingo patterns to each award amount. In one embodiment of a multi-level mapping strategy, the desired award amounts may be divided into a plurality of subsets or pay groups, with each subset or pay group containing one or more of the award amounts, and then assigning primary patterns to each of the pay groups and secondary patterns to each of the award amounts within the pay groups. FIG. 32 is a flowchart of a multi-level Bingo pattern mapping routine 950 that may be implemented to map the desired award amounts to Bingo patterns. The mapping strategy may be applied equally to award amounts for Bingo game winners and for interim pattern matches. Referring to FIG. 32, the multi-level mapping routine 950 may begin at a block 952 at which the award amounts for the Bingo game and associated probabilities are determined. The award amounts and associated probabilities may be determined in any known manner for calculating paytables to achieve a desired award payout rate. Moreover, as an alternative to determining the award amounts and probabilities from scratch, the awards and probabilities may be derived from known paytables used in other gaming devices to achieve a desired payout rate.

Please replace paragraph 156 with the following amended paragraph.

[0156] In the embodiment wherein the secondary Bingo cards 986, 988 are used to evaluate the secondary patterns, it follows that the secondary patterns may be similarly defined within two rows and five columns. FIG. 36 illustrates a secondary pattern set 1000 containing secondary patterns 1002-1018 corresponding to the 2 credit through 10 credit award amounts of pay group 1 of FIG. 33, and a secondary pattern set 1020 containing secondary patterns 1022-1038 corresponding to the 12 credit through 20 credit award amounts of pay group [[1]] 2 of FIG. 33. Similar secondary patterns sets may be assigned for remaining pay groups 3-10. The various secondary pattern sets may or may not use the same secondary patterns. Even where the same secondary patterns are used for all pay groups, the odds within the groups may still be varied based on the particular patterns and the number of patterns assigned to each award amount within a given group. In this embodiment, when a primary Bingo patterns 964-982 is matched on

the primary Bingo cards 802, 822, the player may be paid the lowest award amount in the pay group in the event that none of the secondary patterns for the pay group are matched on the secondary Bingo card 802, 822. Consequently, it may not be necessary to assign a secondary pattern to the lowest value award amounts. However, a secondary pattern may be assigned to the lowest value award amounts, and the player may not receive an award if no secondary pattern is matched after matching the primary Bingo pattern.